United States Embassy Dakar, Senegal

Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Political Situation in Guinea-Bissau August 7, 2015

The U.S. Embassy in Dakar is closely monitoring the political situation in Guinea-Bissau. In keeping with the Department of State's country specific travel information on Guinea-Bissau, residents and visitors should monitor the political situation and avoid large gatherings and street demonstrations. Demonstrations typically begin or end in front of the former Presidential Palace in "Praça dos Herois Nacionais." While most demonstrations in Guinea-Bissau are non-violent, the imbalance of power in the country can lead to violent demonstrations.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. Avoid areas where demonstrations are taking place and exercise caution when in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

Review your personal security plans, remain aware of your surroundings, including local events, and monitor local news stations for updates. Be vigilant and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

For further information:

- See the <u>State Department's travel website</u> for the <u>Worldwide</u> <u>Caution</u>, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and <u>Country Specific</u> <u>Information</u>.
- Enroll in the **Smart Traveler Enrollment Program** (**STEP**) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Dakar, located at Route des Almadies. The U.S. Embassy is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Fridays.
- You may call +221 33 879 4000 during normal business hours or +221 33 879 4444 during after-hours.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on **Twitter** and **Facebook**.